

**Indiana Department of Environmental Management
Office of Pollution Prevention and Technical Assistance**

**INDIANA
HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE
GRANT PROGRAM**

ANNUAL REPORT, FISCAL YEAR 2001

Pursuant to IC 13-20-20-12

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) provides financial assistance to solid waste management districts and communities to assist in dealing with household hazardous waste collection and disposal issues. Grants have helped fund projects such as the establishment of household hazardous waste collection facilities, regional collection programs, and educational projects to reduce usage of hazardous household products and promote non-toxic alternatives and proper disposal.

In fiscal year 2001, IDEM awarded \$313,693 from the hazardous waste response trust fund to projects. Funding was also provided from the solid waste management fund to support local mercury collection and recycling efforts. Local money and in-kind contributions matched grant funds.

Funding Highlights

❑ Regional household hazardous waste collection, disposal and educational programs

The regional cooperative grant provides financial support for household hazardous waste programs in 35 counties.

❑ Support for the establishment of household hazardous waste facilities

The grant provides financial assistance for the establishment of three household hazardous waste facilities, serving 186,000 residents in three counties.

❑ Continued support for regional mercury collection

The grant allocated \$41,337 to be utilized from the solid waste management fund to provide continued assistance to solid waste management districts for the collection of mercury.

STATE HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE ACTIVITIES UPDATE

A cooperative effort between regional projects and local investments in new programs have resulted in continued expansion of household hazardous waste services In Indiana since the inception of the Household Hazardous Waste Grant Program in 1994 (see attachments A & B). These efforts have enabled solid waste management districts to provide services to areas that would not otherwise be served. The Mercury Awareness Program began in 1998 and continues to achieve remarkable success was the reason for legislation in the 2001 legislative session.

Signed in to law in 2001, House Enrolled Act 1901 requires solid waste management districts to “implement mercury collection programs for the public and small businesses,” among other provisions. This act also requires IDEM to work with districts to implement education programs to provide information to the public concerning the reuse and recycling of mercury in mercury commodities and mercury-added products and collection programs available to the public for mercury commodities and mercury-added products.

The Mercury Awareness Program began in October of 1998 through a partnership with the Indiana Regional Household Hazardous Waste Task Force, other solid waste management districts and communities across the state. The program provides financial assistance through a network of mercury hubs for the recycling of collected mercury and mercury-containing products. Mercury collected by local community or solid waste management district programs is recycled through a state contractor. IDEM recently provided additional support for the program by printing mercury brochures and approving a grant to establish a mercury hub in Spencer County. See attachment B. for the locations of mercury hubs.

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management, communities, members of the Indiana Regional Household Hazardous Waste Task Force and other solid waste management districts have continued their mercury collection and awareness activities. Since the program began, more than 5000 pounds of mercury and mercury-containing devices from schools and the public has been collected for recycling.

Clean Sweeps, a pilot program with the United States Environmental Protection Agency and Indiana Regional Household Hazardous Waste Task Force, helps schools assess classroom chemical storage through education and training. The program helped the following eight Indiana high school labs begin the year cleaner and safer:

- ◆ Bishop Luers High School, Allen County
- ◆ Covington High School Fountain County
- ◆ Crawford County High School, Crawford County
- ◆ Franklin Community High School, Johnson County
- ◆ Greenwood High School, Johnson County
- ◆ New Harmony School, Posey County
- ◆ Sheridan HS, Hamilton County
- ◆ Southport High School, Marion County

IDEM offered the service to all junior high and high schools that signed IDEM's mercury pledge, a voluntary agreement made by individual schools to eliminate the use of mercury and mercury containing products.

During a Clean Sweep, Indiana Department of Environmental Management and the Indiana Regional Household Hazardous Waste Task Force conduct an assessment of the school's science labs. After each chemical in the lab is assessed, an independent contractor removes and disposes of unused, expired or unknown substances. The Clean Sweeps program promoted conscientious chemical use. Even the most benign chemicals, if improperly stored or expired, can become volatile, leach out of containers, or inadvertently mix with other substances and cause an adverse reaction. Clean Sweeps also provided teachers with the information and tools necessary to make future decisions about using, purchasing and storing chemicals.

This voluntary program was offered at no cost to the schools. A \$60,000 grant was given by the U.S. EPA to implement the program. IDEM supplied a \$20,000 matching grant.

Other regional activities include a grant to the Indiana Regional Household Hazardous Waste Task Force. The grant supports the household hazardous waste collection and disposal, the development of an educational piece targeting 3rd, 4th and 5th graders on safe use and management of hazardous household products and toxics reduction and a battery recycling educational campaign.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Indiana Code 13-20-20-1 states that IDEM shall provide financial assistance to governmental units and solid waste management districts through matching grants for projects involving the collection, recycling, or disposal of household hazardous waste. The objectives of the Indiana Department of Environmental Management for the Household Hazardous Waste Grant Program are the following:

- 1) To provide financial support for the establishment of permanent household hazardous waste and conditionally exempt small quantity generator services throughout Indiana, which are available to all residents or exempt small generators in the areas served.
- 2) To support the safe and environmentally sound disposal or recycling of household hazardous waste and conditionally exempt small quantity generator waste.
- 3) To educate the public and exempt small generators in source reduction and pollution prevention and the safe management and proper disposal or recycling of household hazardous waste and conditionally exempt small quantity generator waste.

Disposal Assistance from the Household Hazardous Waste Grant Program provides financial assistance to support the disposal of household hazardous waste through a licensed hazardous waste service. IDEM will provide disposal assistance to:

- 1) Support new household hazardous waste programs or services.
- 2) Support programs or services in need of financial assistance in order to ensure continued services.

The program provides matching grants for household hazardous waste and conditionally exempt small quantity generator waste reduction, collection, proper disposal, and education/promotion programs, including:

- ◆ education programs to reduce the quantity of household hazardous waste and conditionally exempt small quantity generator waste generated by informing the public of less hazardous and/or nontoxic substitutes for typical household hazardous products;
- ◆ reuse and product exchanges to reduce the quantity of household hazardous waste being disposed; and,
- ◆ establishing permanent facilities for the proper handling, storage and disposal of household hazardous waste and conditionally exempt small quantity generator waste.

ELIGIBILITY

Solid waste management districts, counties, municipalities and townships are eligible to apply for funding from the Indiana Household Hazardous Waste Grant Program. Joint applications between two or more units of government are encouraged. Businesses, commercial operations, non-profit organizations and programs that manage farm operations are not eligible for funding.

MINIMUM PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Grant funds may be used to start-up or provide on-going support for existing programs. Each application must include plans for effective public education and promotion. IDEM considers that the most effective way to support the establishment of permanent household hazardous waste or conditionally exempt small quantity generator services is to encourage the development of local sustainable programs by limiting grant eligibility to permanent collection programs. Household hazardous waste grant funds *may not* be used for one-day collection events (known as "tox-away days"). Permanent household hazardous waste collection programs must include the following elements:

- 1) the ability to accept household hazardous waste from the public upon request;
- 2) service is advertised with regularly scheduled hours and has an education component; and,
- 3) demonstrates cost efficiencies through local management and operation of collection.

2001 FISCAL YEAR HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE GRANTS

In fiscal year 2001, the Department of Environmental Management received seven household hazardous waste grant applications for funding. A committee, consisting of representatives from the private sector, solid waste management districts, associations, not-for-profits organizations and IDEM staff reviewed the applications. Following a competitive review process, grants in the amount of \$313,693 were awarded to six projects.

PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

Adams County Solid Waste Management District \$24,051

Adams County SWMD was awarded funding assistance for the establishment of a permanent household hazardous waste facility. The facility will provide collection and disposal services to Adams County residents. The district will provide educational and promotional materials to educate the public regarding the proper disposal of household hazardous waste and the availability of the program. Grant funds support the establishment of the facility and public education expenses. A participant match of \$33,171 is pledged.

Howard County Solid Waste Management District \$50,865

Howard County SWMD will establish a permanent household hazardous waste facility to be located on a brownfield site. The facility will provide collection and disposal services to Howard County residents. The district will provide educational and promotional materials to educate the public regarding the proper disposal of household hazardous waste and the availability of the program. Grant funds support the establishment of the facility and public education expenses. A participant match of \$123,760 is pledged.

Kosciusko County Solid Waste Management District \$24,051

Kosciusko County SWMD received funding assistance for the establishment of a permanent household hazardous waste collection facility. The facility will provide collection and disposal services to Kosciusko County residents. The district will provide educational and promotional materials to educate the public regarding the proper disposal of household hazardous waste and the availability of the program. Grant funds support the establishment of the facility and public education expenses. A participant match of \$50,110 is pledged.

Monroe Solid Waste Management District \$55,000

Monroe County SWMD was awarded funding assistance for household hazardous waste collection and disposal services. The district provides household hazardous waste collection and disposal services to residents. The district will provide educational and promotional materials to educate the public regarding the proper disposal of household hazardous waste and the availability of the program. A participant match of \$55,000 is pledged.

Southeastern Indiana Solid Waste Management District**\$147,787**

Southeastern Indiana SWMD was awarded funding on behalf of the Regional Household Hazardous Waste Task Force. The grant provides funding assistance for household hazardous waste collection and disposal programs in 23 solid waste management districts, serving 35 counties. Funding also supports the development of educational materials that promote safe handling and management of hazardous household products reduced usage of toxic products, and a battery education campaign. A participant match of \$315,507 is pledged.

Wildcat Creek Solid Waste Management District**\$12,500**

Wildcat Creek SWMD received funding assistance for it's household hazardous waste collection and disposal services. The district provides household hazardous waste collection and disposal services to residents of Clinton and Tippecanoe counties. The district will provide educational and promotional materials to educate the public regarding the proper disposal of household hazardous waste and the availability of the program. A participant match of \$27,500 is pledged.

2002 FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

The household hazardous waste grant program's goal is to reduce the improper disposal of household hazardous waste that damages infrastructure, harms individuals and contaminates our water. Our objective is to develop a statewide infrastructure and ensure residents are educated on this important issue.

The household hazardous waste grants awarded in fiscal year 2001 provided financial and technical support for household hazardous waste programs across the state. The end result is more residents have access to proper disposal alternatives and to reuse and recycling options for the hazardous waste generated. However, many of the funded projects have a limited scope. Please refer to the project descriptions on page four. In addition, many areas of the state have limited household hazardous waste collection services (see attached B) and continued state support has been shown to be critical for the continuation for many household hazardous waste programs. It is the intent of IDEM to support the development of permanent collection programs and assist those programs that are in need of ongoing support through future funding rounds of the Indiana Household Hazardous Waste Grant Program.

IDEM has received \$726,836 in requests for grant funding for fiscal year 2002. There is \$380,000 in grant funds available for household hazardous waste projects. IDEM anticipates that all appropriations for the Indiana Household Hazardous Waste Grant Program will be awarded. IDEM, with input from external partners, will:

- ◆ support the development of conditionally exempt small quantity generator education and disposal services;
- ◆ continue to support the implementation and development of permanent household hazardous waste services; and,

- ◆ support the development of new household hazardous waste programs.